

BERNALILLO COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION NO. 2015-16

**RESOLUTION TO PURSUE THE FORMATION OF A OF A UNIFIED AND
COORDINATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM IN BERNALILLO COUNTY AND
THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE AREA OF NEW MEXICO**

WHEREAS, Bernalillo County is responsible for and committed to promoting the health and safety of all County residents, and presently there are acute problems with the system of providing all types of behavioral health care services to County residents and the residents of the surrounding communities; and,

WHEREAS, numerous behavioral health task forces and study groups have formed to identify existing behavioral health care services, gaps, needs and priorities in Bernalillo County and have issued recommendations including: the City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Task Force, The Forensic Intervention Consortium, and the Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce Mental Health Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico, City of Albuquerque, the University of New Mexico Hospital and multiple private providers are providing poorly coordinated services in the County with limited resources to address the needs of the community; and,

WHEREAS, implementing collaborative solutions to the common problems will best utilize the limited resources to impact the most residents; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque is under a U.S. Department of Justice directive to expand behavioral health services; and,

WHEREAS, UNMH receives 90 million dollars for the operation of a public hospital, with 15% of that funding dedicated to providing behavioral health care; and,

**CONTINUATION PAGE 2, ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION AR 2015-16
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FORMATION OF A GOVERNING AND
OVERSIGHT SYSTEM FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES IN BERNALILLO
COUNTY AND NEIGHBORING COUNTIES**

1 **WHEREAS**, the UNMH behavioral health resources must be fully coordinated with any new
2 resources provided from a local gross receipts tax or other state and local funding; and,

3 **WHEREAS**, counties surrounding Bernalillo County, including Sandoval, Valencia, and
4 Torrance, have expressed their willingness to collaborate with Bernalillo County to create the
5 greatest efficiencies; and,

6 **WHEREAS**, in November 2014 Bernalillo County voters overwhelming expressed their
7 support for a county-wide gross receipts tax for the purpose of providing more mental and
8 behavioral health services for adults and children in the Albuquerque and Bernalillo County area,
9 to provide a safety net system that develops a continuum of care not otherwise funded in New
10 Mexico; and,

11 **WHEREAS**, an intergovernmental agreement to create a governing body to oversee, fund,
12 and create programs for the provision of behavioral health services may be required; and,

13 **WHEREAS**, a failure to properly organize, structure, fund, manage and oversee the
14 operations of the County's behavioral health care changes may lead to continued gaps in care;
15 and,

16 **WHEREAS**, Bernalillo County has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Behavioral
17 Health System and Stabilization Consultant Services with a deadline of June 1st 2015, for
18 completion of a preliminary plan for behavioral health, including an administrative structure for
19 the purposes of receiving, administering, monitoring and overseeing behavioral health funds; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the University of New Mexico Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for
21 Health Policy is studying existing models for behavioral health governing structures and funding

**CONTINUATION PAGE 3, ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION AR 2015-16
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mechanisms and will report its findings and recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners in April 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bernalillo County Board of County Commissioners hereby authorizes and directs the County Manager to work with consultants and stakeholders to engage all of Bernalillo County's partners in the behavioral healthcare system to propose a governance and operational organization to deliver behavioral health care in Bernalillo County and the surrounding communities as follows:

1. Engage partners in the delivery of behavioral health care in the community and build a coalition among governments, providers, patients, first responders, Native American residents, and advocates for underserved citizens in our community;
2. Propose a coordinated governance system, funding mechanisms, oversight and accountability for the prioritization and delivery of behavioral health services in Bernalillo County and if possible in cooperation with our regional neighboring counties;
3. Identify behavioral health services to meet priority needs for prevention and treatment of mental illness, substance abuse, and co-occurring disorders; and
4. Propose mechanisms for reimbursement from partner local governments for the provision of behavioral health services; and,
5. Propose metrics and benchmarks with deadlines to assess the impact of the behavioral health gross receipts tax on Bernalillo County's healthcare spending within the Metropolitan Detention Center and a process for reallocating resources within the constraints of the McClendon litigation.

**CONTINUATION PAGE 4, ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION AR 2015-16
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6. The County Manager shall present this proposal to the Board of County Commissioners no later than December 1, 2015.

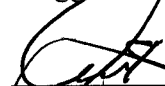
7. The County Manager shall work with the Board of County Commissioners and report to the Board through a discussion item on the agenda every 60 days on the progress of this initiative;

DONE this 26th day of February, 2015.

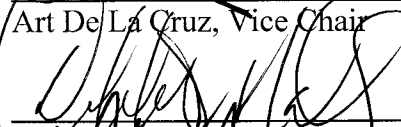
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



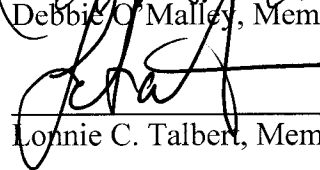
Maggie Hart Stebbins, Chair



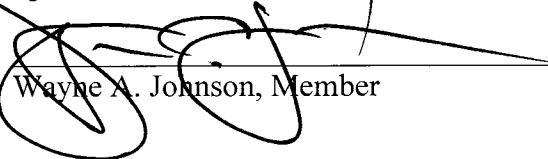
Art De La Cruz, Vice Chair



Debbie O'Malley, Member



Lonnie C. Talbert, Member



Wayne A. Johnson, Member

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

County Legal

ATTEST:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
County Clerk

